Command Group

Colonel Thomas H. Palmatier, Commander	Melbourne, FL
Command Sergeant Major David W. Keller, Command Sergeant Major	
Chief Warrant Officer Gordon K. Kippola, Director	Seabeck,WA
Saxophones/Woodwinds	
Sergeant First Class Andrew Layton, Lead Alto^	Kent,WA
Staff Sergeant Joshua Fox, Second Alto	
Sergeant First Class Pat Shook, First Tenor	
Staff Sergeant Brad Danho, Second Tenor	
Sergeant Major Eugene Thorne, Baritone, NCOIC*	Vero Beach, FL
Trumpets	
Sergeant First Class Paul Stephens, Lead Trumpet	
Sergeant First Class Paul Armstrong, Second Trumpet*	
Master Sergeant Kevin Watt, Third Trumpet^	
Master Sergeant Michael Johnston, Fourth Trumpet	
Master Sergeant Jack Wengrosky, Fifth Trumpet	Hillside, IL
Trombones	
Staff Sergeant Mike Bravin, Lead Trombone	
Sergeant First Class Jeff Adams, Second Trombone	
Master Sergeant Mike Buckley, Third Trombone^	
Sergeant First Class Major Bailey, Bass Trombone	Satellite Beach, FL
Vocalist	
Master Sergeant Marva Lewis	Denison,TX
Rhythm Section	
Master Sergeant Jeff Lopez, Bass^*	
Sergeant First Class Tim Young, Piano	
Sergeant First Class Todd Harrison, <i>Drums</i> *	
Staff Sergeant Stephen Lesche, Guitar	Orlando, FL
Operations/Stage Support	
Master Sergeant Jeff Lopez, Road Manager	
Sergeant First Class Heather Van Beek, Tour Coordinator	
Sergeant First Class David Bullman, Tour Coordinator Jacks	
Sergeant First Class Michael McLaughlin, Audio Engineer	Eustis, FL
* Jazz Ambassadors Staff Arranger	

The mission of The United States Army Field Band is to "carry into the grassroots of our country the story of our magnificent Army."

In performances across America and throughout the world, the men and women of this organization take great pride in reflecting the excellence of all our nation's Soldiers.

www.armyfieldband.com



The Musical Ambassadors of the Army Washington, DC





The Musical Ambassadors of the Army Washington, DC

Gettysburg, PA June 21, 2008

*Staff Arranger, The U.S. Army Field Band

The Jazz Ambassadors is the United States Army's premier touring jazz orchestra. As a component of The United States Army Field Band of Washington, DC, this internationally-acclaimed organization travels thousands of miles each year to present jazz, America's national treasure, to enthusiastic audiences in every state in the nation and around the world.

Formal public concerts, school assemblies, clinics, music festivals, and radio and television appearances are all part of the Jazz Ambassadors' yearly schedule. The band has appeared in all fifty states, Canada, Mexico, Europe, Japan, and the Republic of India. Notable performances include participation in the inaugurations of presidents George Bush and Bill Clinton, appearances at the Nice Jazz Festival in France, the North Sea Jazz Festival in the Netherlands, the Montreux Jazz Festival in Switzerland, the Jazz and Heritage Festival in New Orleans, and the Newport Jazz Festival in Rhode Island.

Many of the members are also composers and arrangers whose writing helps create the band's unique sound. Concert repertoire includes big band swing, bebop, contemporary jazz, popular tunes, and dixieland. Each program includes exciting selections performed by the band's talented and versatile vocalist, Master Sergeant Marva Lewis.

Whether performing in the United States or representing our country overseas, the Jazz Ambassadors entertains audiences of all ages and backgrounds by presenting the American art form known as jazz.

Chief Warrant Officer Gordon K. Kippola enlisted in the Army in 1982 after earning a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Following Basic Combat Training and Advanced Individual Training, Mr. Kippola was assigned to the 6th Army Band in San Francisco as a trombone player.

Other assignments during Mr. Kippola's enlisted service include the 2nd Infantry Division Band at Camp Casey, Korea; the 1st US Army Band at Fort Meade, Maryland; the 8th US Army Band in Seoul, Korea; and the 399th Army Band at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. He also completed a staff assignment at the Armed Forces School of Music.

Mr. Kippola was appointed a Warrant Officer in 1996, with his first assignment at the 10th Mountain Division Band, Fort Drum, New York. He then commanded the 1st Infantry Division Band in Germany and Iraq. Prior to his assignment as an Associate Bandmaster with The U.S. Army Field Band, he commanded the 77th Army Band at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. His awards include the Bronze Star Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, and the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal. He is married to Trecia Karinshak, who is currently pursuing a doctorate in statistics at Oklahoma State University.



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Learn More

For further information about current vacancies, performance tours, concert sponsorship opportunities, education outreach programs, and to sign up for our eNewsletter, visit our webpage at: www.armyfieldband.com



Your comments

about our program are greatly appreciated and may be sent by e-mail to—
field.band@us.army.mil
or to the following address—
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RE: The U.S. Army Field Band
1500 Army Pentagon
Washington, DC 20310-1500